INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H01L23/367 H01L23/495 H01L25/065

According to international Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Х	US 5 986 340 A (SMITH JOSEPH O ET AL) 16 November 1999 (1999-11-16) column 3, line 25 - line 64	1-6,10, 11
Y	column 4, line 50 -column 7, line 9 figures 2A,2B,3A,3B	7-9,12, 13
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 07, 29 September 2000 (2000-09-29) -& JP 2000 106410 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY CORP), 11 April 2000 (2000-04-11) abstract paragraphs '0005!,'0008!,'0010!-'0015! figures 1-5	1-4,6, 10,11
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X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents: A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	 "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the International search 9 May 2003	Date of malling of the international search report 16/05/2003
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Morena, E

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		SG 02/	00170
C.(Continua	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.
Υ	US 6 294 838 B1 (PENG GENTLE) 25 September 2001 (2001-09-25) abstract		7-9,12
A	column 1, line 40 -column 2, line 23 figures 1,2 claim 1	·	1,5,10
Y	US 6 314 639 B1 (CORISIS DAVID J) 13 November 2001 (2001-11-13)		13
A	column 2, line 44 -column 4, line 26; figures 1,3		1,2,10, 11
4	US 6 326 242 B1 (BROOKS MIKE ET AL) 4 December 2001 (2001-12-04) abstract		1,2,10, 11,13
	column 3, line 66 -column 4, line 7 column 4, line 51 -column 5, line 27 claims 1,2; figures 1,7		-
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